

COLUMBIA RIVER REGIONAL FORUM

TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT TEAM CONFERENCE CALL

March 4, 2005

FACILITATOR'S SUMMARY NOTES ON FUTURE ACTIONS

Facilitator: Donna Silverberg

The following notes are a summary of issues that are intended to point out future actions or issues that may need further discussion at upcoming meetings. These notes are not intended to be the "record" of the meeting, only a reminder for TMT members.

SOR 2005-2

As follow-up to Wednesday's TMT discussion of SOR 2005-2 (see **3/2/05** notes for details), there was a conference call held today, March 4, at 1:00 pm to discuss Bonneville operations given new TDG information gathered at Bonneville and the chum redd sites. Since Wednesday, the following occurred:

- B2 corner collector was opened at 3:40 pm on Thursday, March 3.
- Spill bays 1 and 18 were closed at 4:55 pm to decrease TDG levels being monitored at the project.
- Fish arrived at the project shortly after the spill bays were closed.
- Project has been operating at 12.5' tailwater.

Dave Wills, USFWS, reported on TDG levels at the chum redd sites. Yesterday, March 3, TDG levels ranged from 107% at the Multnomah Falls area and 107-109% at Ives Island. This morning, March 4, TDG levels were 107% again at Multnomah Falls and 105-106% at Ives Island. Jim Adams, COE, noted that TDG levels were higher last night, lower this morning, and appear to be increasing today. Readings taken this afternoon and evening, he offered, would be most representative of what levels will look like over the weekend. He also noted that the best reads for the purposes of this operation are at the Warrendale and perhaps Camas gauges, but not Cascade Island.

TMT checked in again at 4:00 pm, after gathering additional TDG readings this afternoon. TDG levels were at 106-107% according to gauge readings (the salmon managers were unable to do additional readings at the Multnomah Falls area or Ives Island.) NOAA's perspective was that the higher level of TDG is a concern and recommended stopping the corner collector operation at this point. The USFWS does not want to jeopardize the listed fish, and are concerned that fish are not being provided depth compensation at the Multnomah Falls area with the current operation. NOAA and USFWS recommended continuing operating the corner collector until tomorrow (March 5) evening, and adding an additional foot of water for depth compensation and to move the spring creek hatchery fish downstream, until the corner collector is turned off. The COE was supportive of gathering more data on the corner collector and supported this operation. BPA agreed to the operation as well.

ACTION: The action agencies and salmon managers agreed to the following operation:

- Run the corner collector until Saturday (March 5) evening, around 7:00 pm.
- Operate Bonneville tailwater to 13.5' until the corner collector is closed, then drop to 12.5' for 2 or more hours, depending on how much water is available for the operation based on calculations done by BPA and the COE.
- Cindy Henriksen and John Wellschlager will coordinate the details of the operation, after gathering additional information (e.g. when an operator will be available to turn the corner collector off and how much water will be available for the operation at 12.5' after the corner collector is turned off.). Cindy will email the teletype to TMT after operation details are resolved.
- Spill bays 1 and 18 will be re-opened for spill attraction sometime Sunday (March 6) morning.
- Next Steps: The salmon managers are interested in looking long term at how to accommodate chum redds at the Multnomah Falls area, given the observation this year that the redds are not covered with 12.5' depth compensation and TDG levels tend to be above 105%.